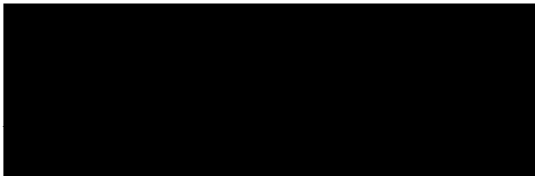


7 January 1969

25X1A5a1



Dear Frank:

I have read your project proposal to produce a guide to Chinese linguistic geography and passed it to others in my research staff for comment. As you may suspect, we are unable to generate any feeling of urgent need for such a project, especially when it is considered in relation to other priorities. I am going to circulate the proposal among the people in the Basic and Geographic Office with a cover note which will invite them to respond. After all, it was one of their maps in the Communist China Map Folio that Fritz recently criticized in a joint government-academic session. They have seen Fritz's earlier rough draft of this proposal, which Fritz forwarded to me from Colorado, but I suggested they withhold comment until the final draft had arrived. I can certainly give you no reason for optimism in terms of our contributing to the research proposal. We are virtually out of the external research contract business. Your Office of Education contact is correct in stating that joint funding is more complicated than funding by a single Agency; however, I know of some cases where it has been done. It is not impossible.

As you may know, the real money being spent on external research is to be found in the Pentagon. I should think it possible that you could generate some interest there. I am enclosing for your information the results of a recent inventory of external research which will give you a dramatic illustration of where research money is to be found.

Sincerely yours,

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Chief, Special Research Staff